

V. REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Uchiyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,638,165). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In col. 10, line 67 of Uchiyama, it states that the mechanical reel portion 6 is a cylindrical steel wheel. Claims 1 and 4 recite at least one light source configured to illuminate the symbols from behind the symbols and the plurality of annular bodies are made transparent or semitransparent for transmitting light from the at least one light source in a direction of the image display.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggest the features of claims 1 and 4. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art teaches away from the features recited in claims 1 and 4. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the features of the applied art because such combination would not result in the claimed invention. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 2 and 5 are canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Uchiyama et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 6 recite a light source configured to illuminate the symbols from a slanting direction of a front of the symbols and the plurality of annular bodies are formed to reflect light from the light source in a direction of the image display.

In col. 6, line 63-67 of Uchiyama, it states that the light source is housed in the mechanical reel portion 6.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggest the features of claims 3 and 6. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify the configuration of Uchiyama by disposing an illumination between the reels and the display (half-mirror 1g) because it would cause

the overlapped display to be damaged. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 6 are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Uchiyama et al. in view of Sakai (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0173356). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to submit those other reasons and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

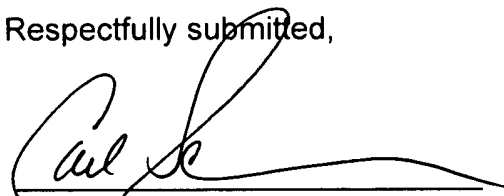
Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 29, 2006

By:


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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (two months)

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